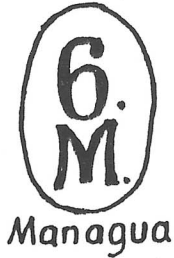
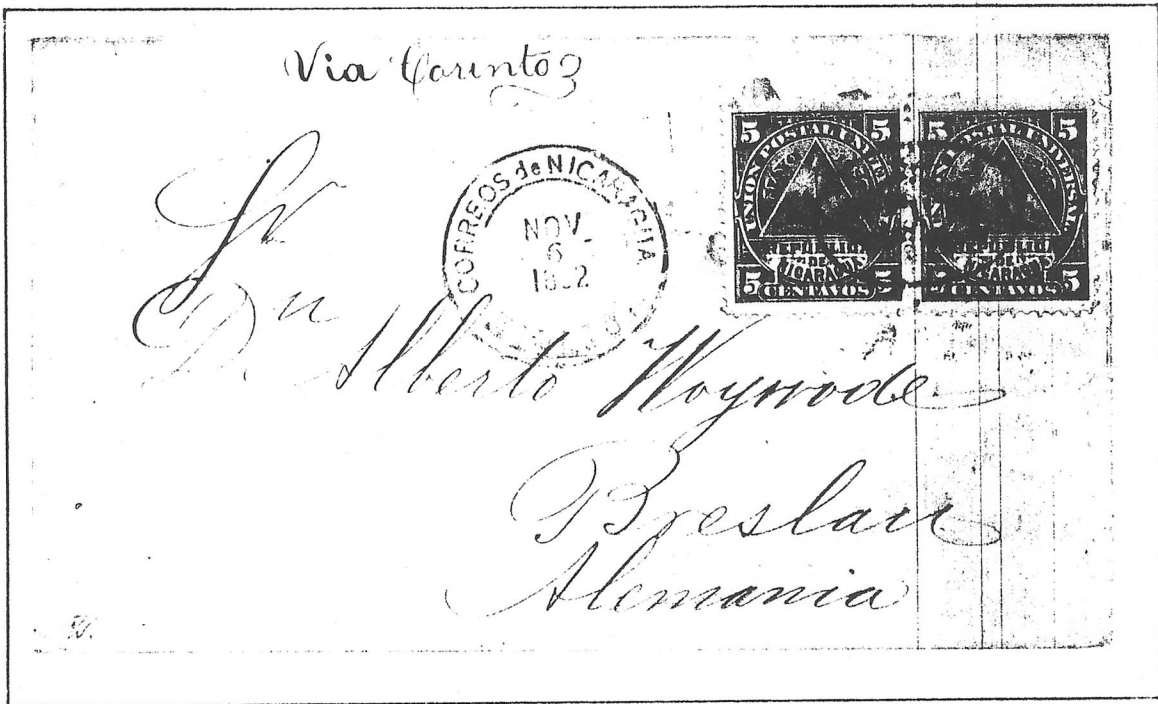


N I C A R A G U A



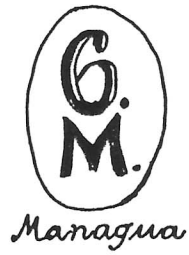
Cover from Managua to Breslau, Germany



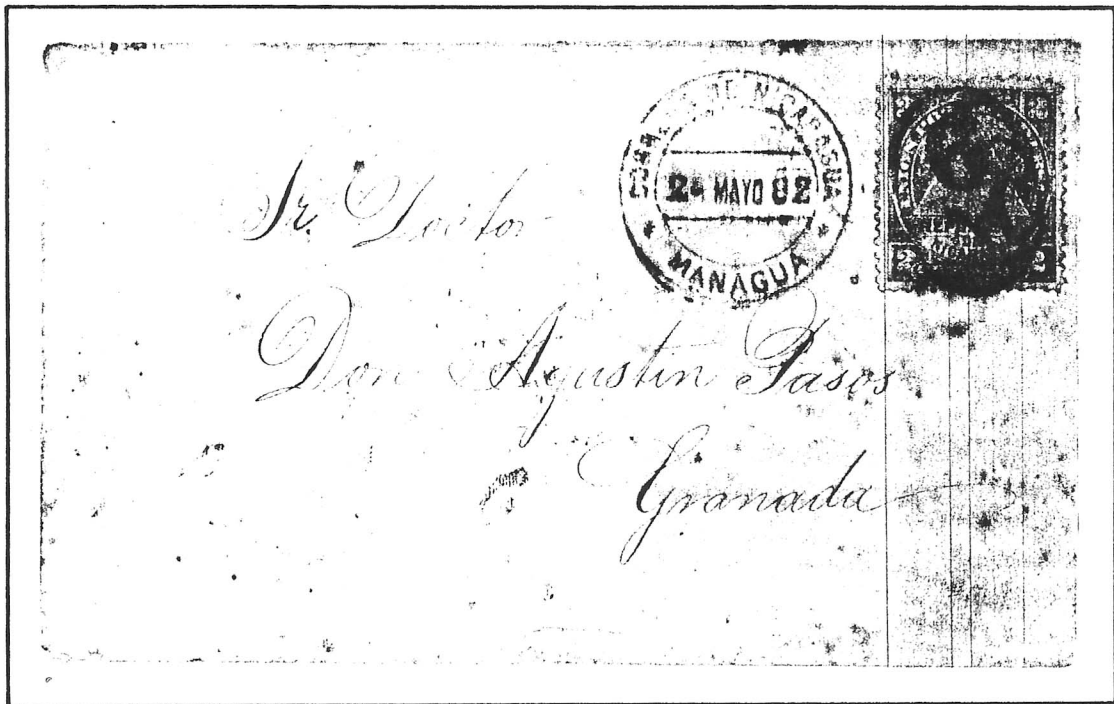
Cancelled Managua November 6, 1882
Arrival postmark Breslau Dec. 18, 1882



N I C A R A G U A



Cover from Managua to Granada



Postmarked Managua with numerical town cancel + cancel dated May 2, 1882

Arrival postmark Granada May 2, 1882

On envelope-flap embossed seal with COAT OF ARMS and reading:
DIRECCION GENERAL DE CORREOS Y TELEGRAFOS NICARAGUA



THE NUMERICAL TOWN CANCELS :

These very interesting Obliteraters were, as already stated, in use together with the dated steel cancels. The 13 major Post Offices at that time received the following cancels shown on page 10, fig. 7.

Only the town of L E O N had 4 different numerical cancels (fig. 8 a, b, c + d) :

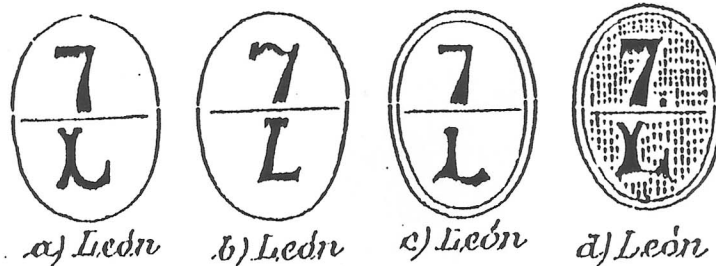


fig. 8

I would say that a) and c) were originally the same cancel and only changed due to its prolonged usage.

Some of these cancels are extremely rare to be found, never mind whether on the perforated or rouletted "Momotombo" issue or even in later use on the first U.P.U. issue of 1882. Certain cancels on certain stamps are probably impossible to be found. It is also possible that certain denominations (values) of stamps were not available at that time at certain Post Offices.

The rarity scale of these cancels - without considering any specific stamp on which they are applied - is in my opinion the following:

<u>Group 1.</u>	<u>Group 2.</u>	<u>Group 3.</u>
12/J JUIGALPA	7/L LEON Type c	5/M MASAYA
11/M MATAGALPA	7/L LEON Type d	2/R RIVAS
1/S SAN JUAN DEL SUR	4/J JINOTEPE	8/CH CHINANDEGA
10/O OCOTAL	7/L LEON Type a	9/C CORINTO
	13/N SAN JUAN DEL NORTE	6/M MANAGUA
		3/G GRANADA

Other places were at that time probably not important enough to receive their own cancel. Bluefields, the then already important headtown of the MOSQUITO COAST, did not receive such a numerical town cancel, as it belonged to the British "Protectorate" of the Mosquito Coast and therefore not under the Postal Authority of the Republic of Nicaragua. About the cancels of this region (British Post Office in Greytown etc.) I will talk in a later chapter.

Postmarks in form of "INTAGLIO" - numbers from different towns are also known, mostly on loose stamps. However, a postmark from LEON in form of an "INTAGLIO" 7 exists on a postcard to Hamburg, Germany in 1887. (fig. 8a,

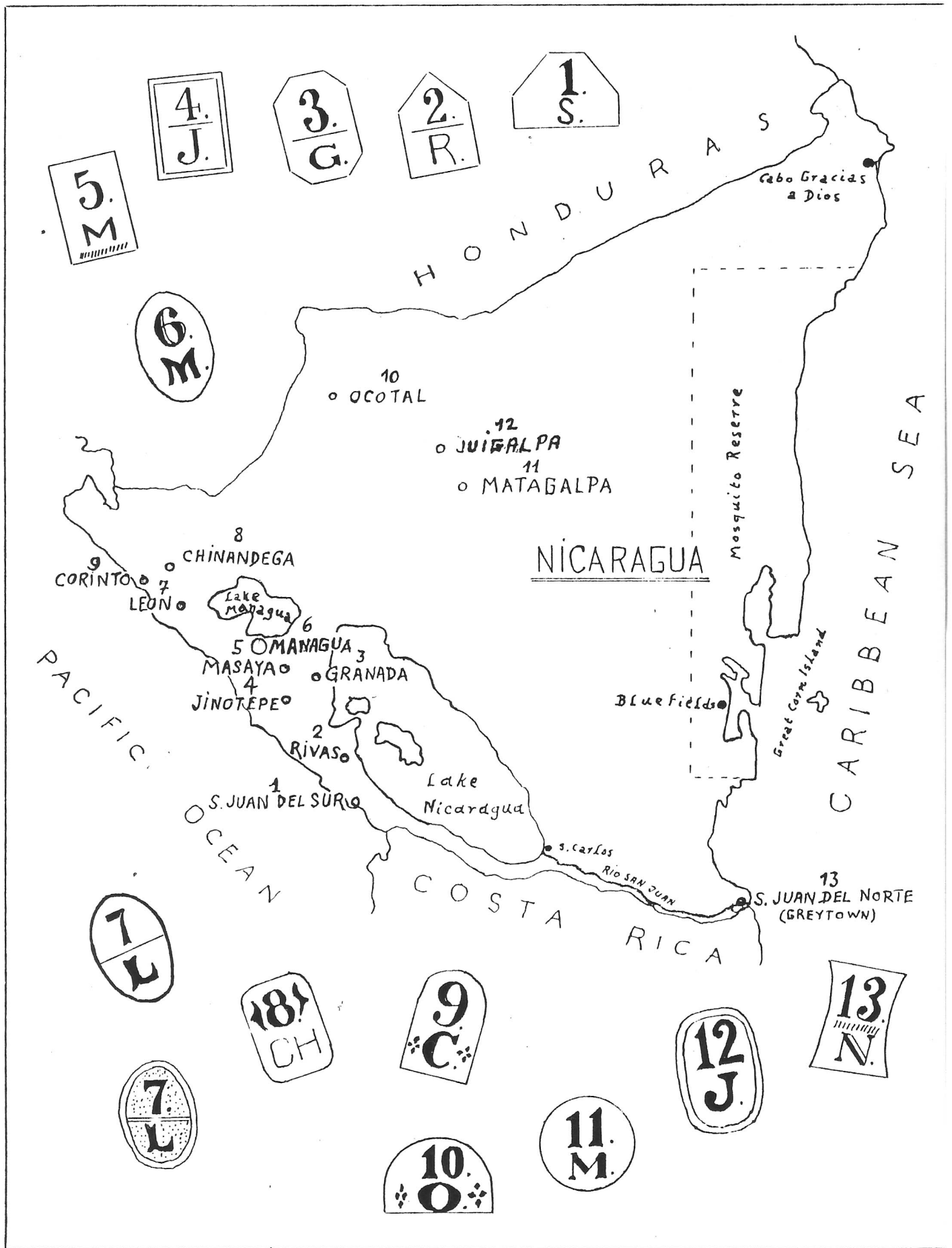


fig. 7

N I C A R A G U A

Between about 1878 and 1889

I N T A G L I O numeral postmarks



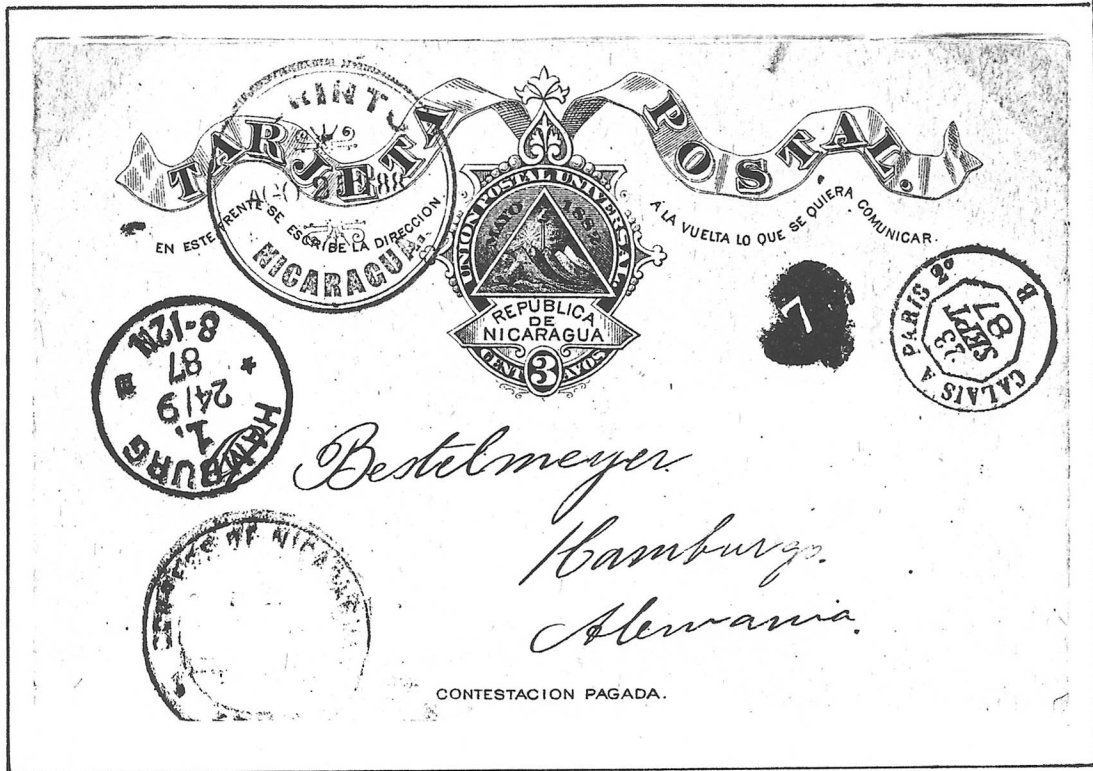
N I C A R A G U A

1 8 8 4

Postcard, "Return Postage Paid"

7

Postcard from LEON to Hamburg, Germany



Cancelled LEON, date illegible (August 25, 1887)

LEON "INTAGLIO" numeral cancel: 7

Transit postmark Corinto August 25, 1887

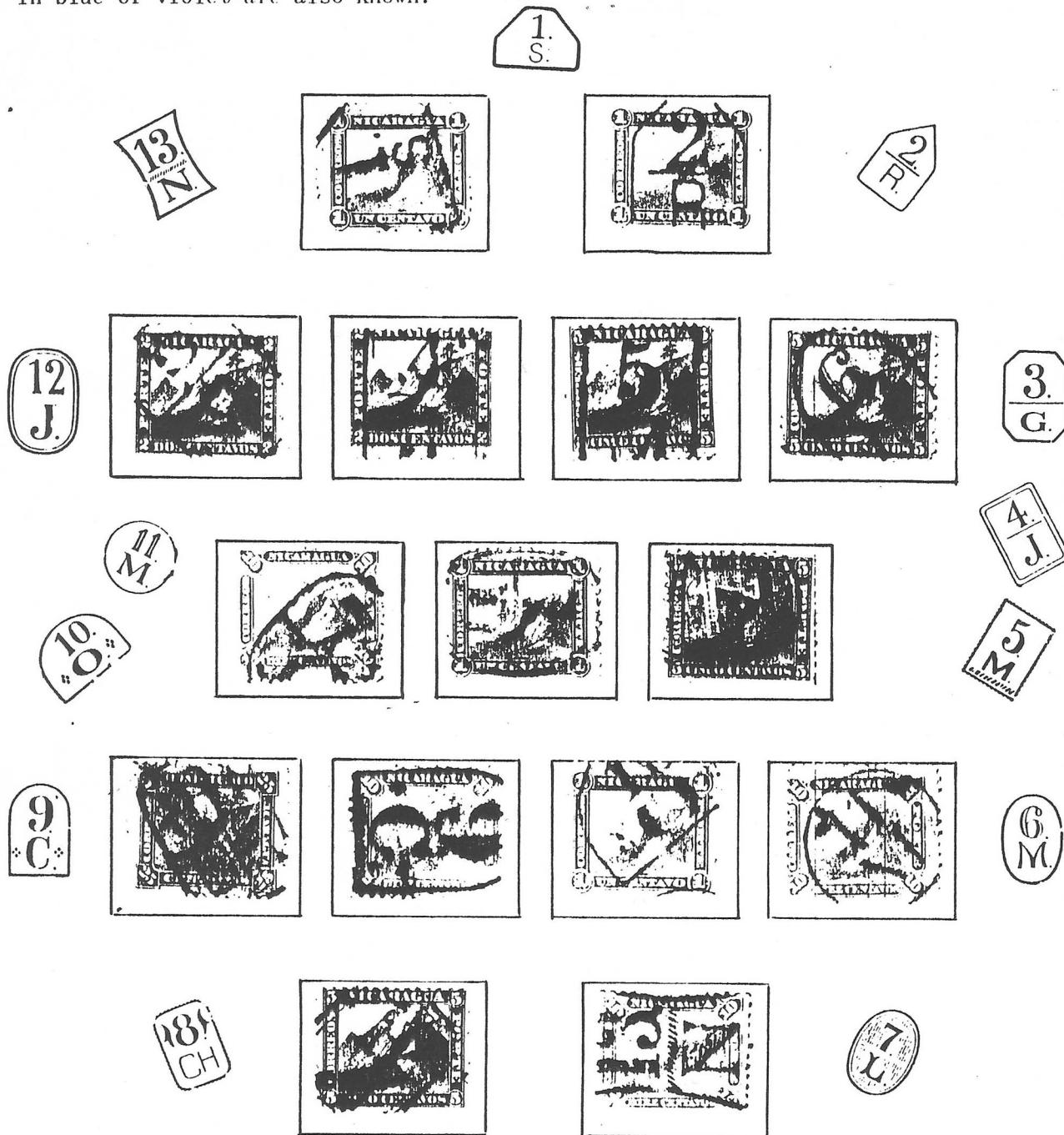
Transit postmark Calais à Paris 2°, September 23, 1887

Arrival postmark Hamburg September 24, 1887

N I C A R A G U A

NUMERAL and LETTER cancellations, used 1869 until about 1886

These numeral and letter "killers" were used in conjunction with a datestamp, latter applied on the cover or postcard only. They are usually struck in black, but strikes in blue or violet are also known.



There were thirteen Post Offices using these obliterations, as follows:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. S. = San Juan del Sur | 6. M. = Managua | 11.-M. = Matagalpa |
| 2. R. = Rivas | 7. L. = León (3 diff. types) | 12. J. = Juigalpa- |
| 3. G. = Granada | 8. CH. = Chinandega | 13. N. = San Juan |
| 4. J. = Jinotepe | 9. C. = Corinto | del Norte |
| 5. M. = Masaya | 10. O. = Ocotal | |

N I C A R A G U A

NUMERAL and LETTER cancellations, used 1869 until about 1886
as before, on rouletted stamps of 1877 - 1880

1.
S.

13
N



R. 2

12
J.



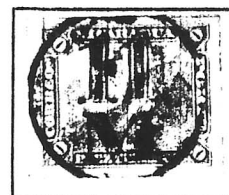
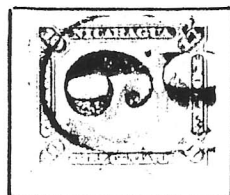
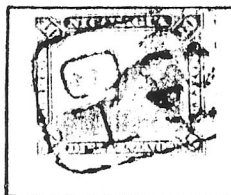
3.
G.

M
M.



4.
J.

10.
O.



5
M.

9
C.



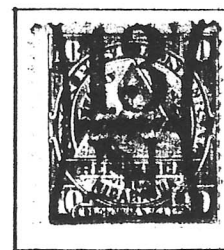
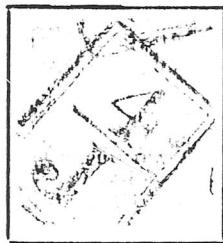
6
M.

18
CH

7
L

N I C A R A G U A

NUMERAL and LETTER cancellations, used 1869 until about 1886
as before, on U.P.U. issue of 1882



All numerical town cancellations were generally applied in black colour. However, strikes in blue and in violet also exist from several towns. Such cancels, as well as cancels on pairs, strips or other multiples of stamps are much rarer. The above cancels were in use from 1869 until about 1887.

These numerical town cancels on complete covers are the dream of every serious Nicaragua collector.

A special cancel with the word GRANADA in an oval, 33 by 15 mm (fig.9) was used in this town in the eighteenthcenturies:



fig. 9

There existed also a similar oval cancel from RIVAS reading ADMIN. DE Correos de Rivas:



fig. 10

The colour of both before mentioned cancels is black.

Three other mute cancels of this period, showing an "M" in a rectangular frame 21 x 16 mm (fig. 11), an "M" in a circle of 19 mm (fig. 12) and an "R" in a circle of 17 mm (fig. 13), all three in black, must be mentioned here:



fig. 11



fig. 11 A



fig. 12



fig. 13

Besides several loose stamps two covers with such postmarks belong to my collection. It is not known what these postmarks were ment for. The field is wide open for guessing. In any case it seems that these cancels were not used very often and probably only during a rather short period.

Another "out of the normal" postmark of this first period, applied in black, is an oval reading COMISARIADO together with other words which unfortunately are nor legible on the stamp I have. It was probably used for some "official" mail? (fig. 14)



N I C A R A G U A

About 1869 until 1871

GRANADA

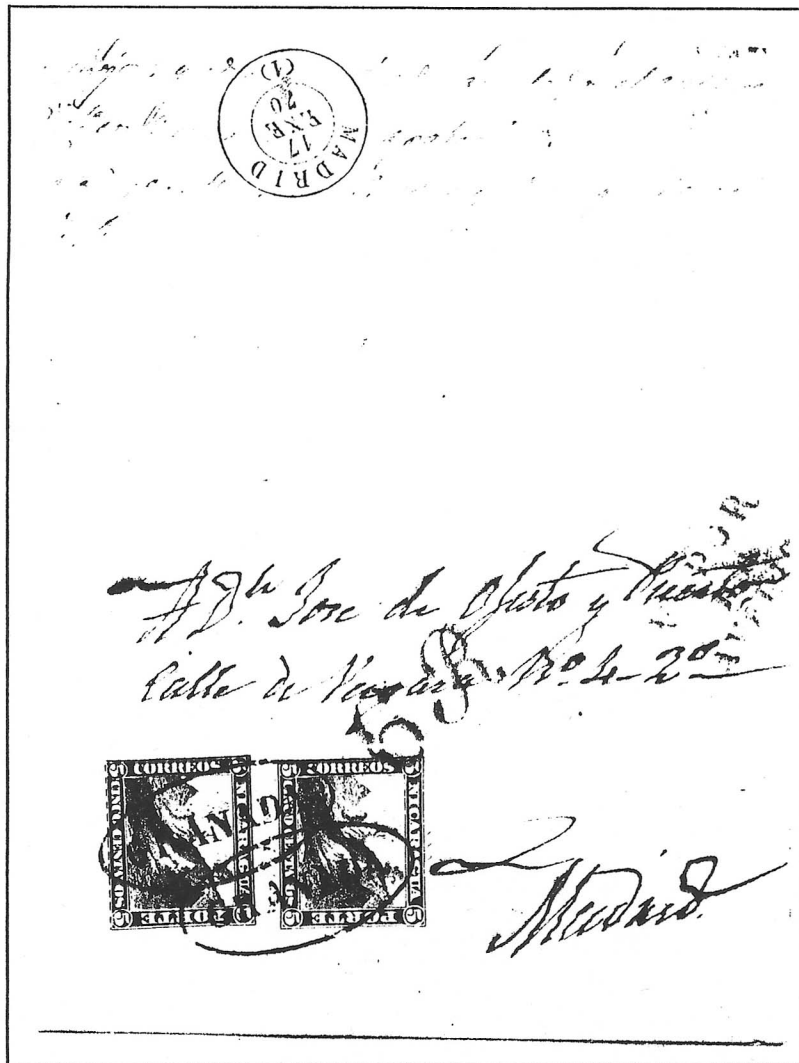


N I C A R A G U A

1 8 7 0

GRANADA

Letter from Granada to Madrid, Spain



VAPOR
DE
AMERICA

6R

Cancelled GRANADA in oval frame, no date
Arrival postmark Madrid January 17, 1870
Spanish postal rate mark 6 R (Reales) in blue
Spanish postmark V A P O R in blue
D E
AMERICA

N I C A R A G U A

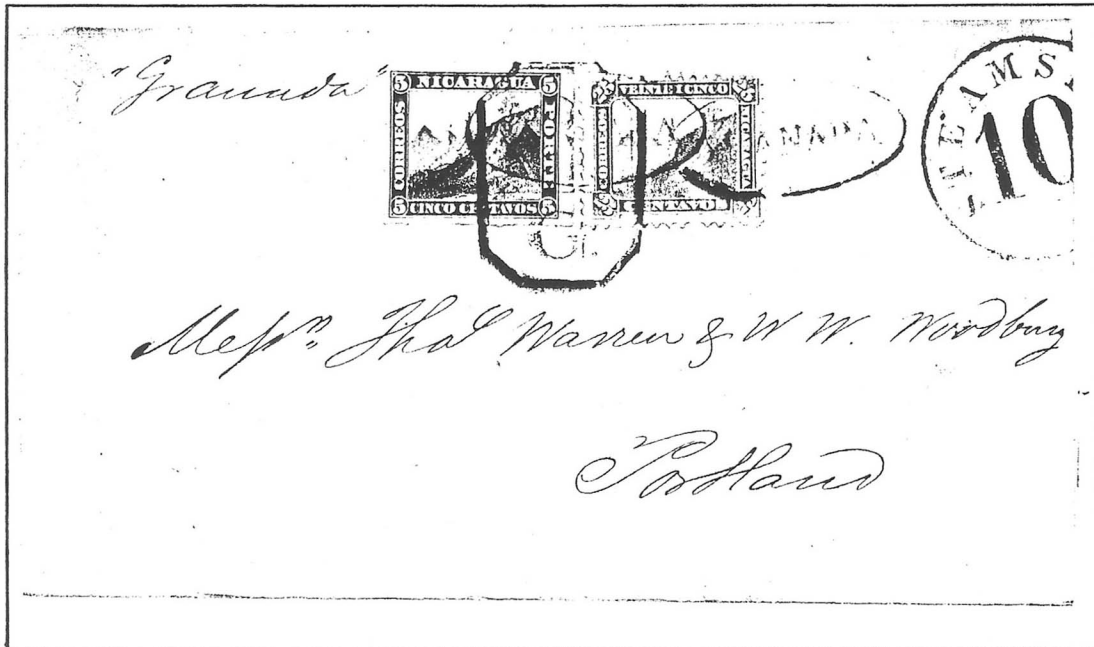
Second issue of postage stamps. 1869 - 1871

+ Third issue of postage stamps. 1878 - 1880

Printed: American Bank Note Co., New York



Cover from Granada to Portland, U.S.A.



This cover left Nicaragua between 1878 and 1881

Stamps cancelled 3/G and GRANADA in oval frame

U.S. arrival postmark (New York):



N I C A R A G U A

1 8 6 9 to about 1 8 8 0

ADMIN. DE
Comercio de Liras



N I C A R A G U A

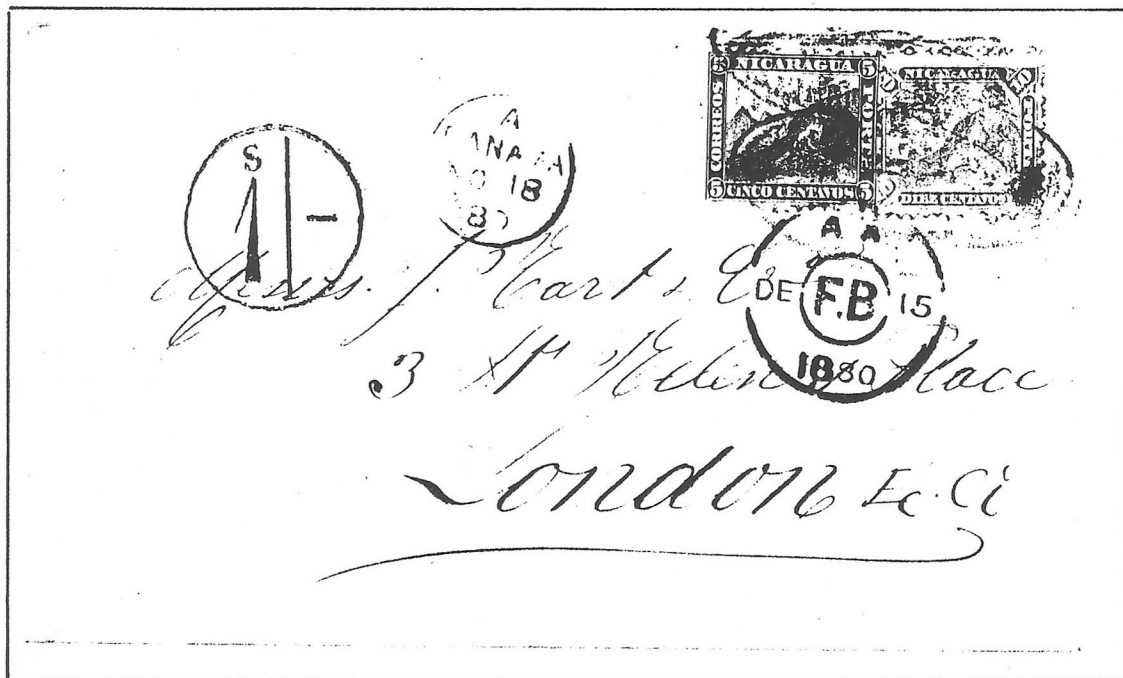
Second issue of postage stamps. 1869 - 1871

Thin hard, white paper, thin yellowish gum,
engraved, perforated 12

Printed: American Bank Note Co., New York



Cover from RIVAS to London, England



Cancelled with blurred oval RIVAS postmark without date

Transit postmark Panama November 18, 1880



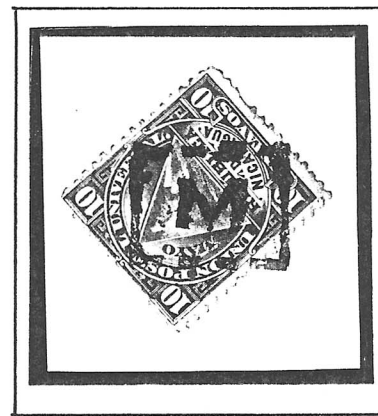
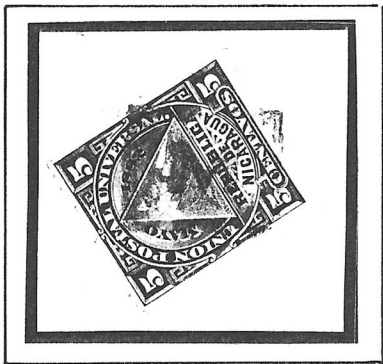
Arrival postmark (on back of cover) London December 15, 1880

Arrival postmark London Foreign Branch Office Dec. 15, 1880

British 1 shilling Tax mark

N I C A R A G U A

1882 - Printed: American Bank Note Co., New York
Soft porous, white paper, engraved, perforated 12.



This cancel - probably from Managua - was only used during a very short period !

N I C A R A G U A

1882 - Printed: American Bank Note Co., New York
Soft porous, white paper, engraved, perforated 12.



These cancels - probably from Masaya or Matagalpa and Rivas - were only used during a very short period !

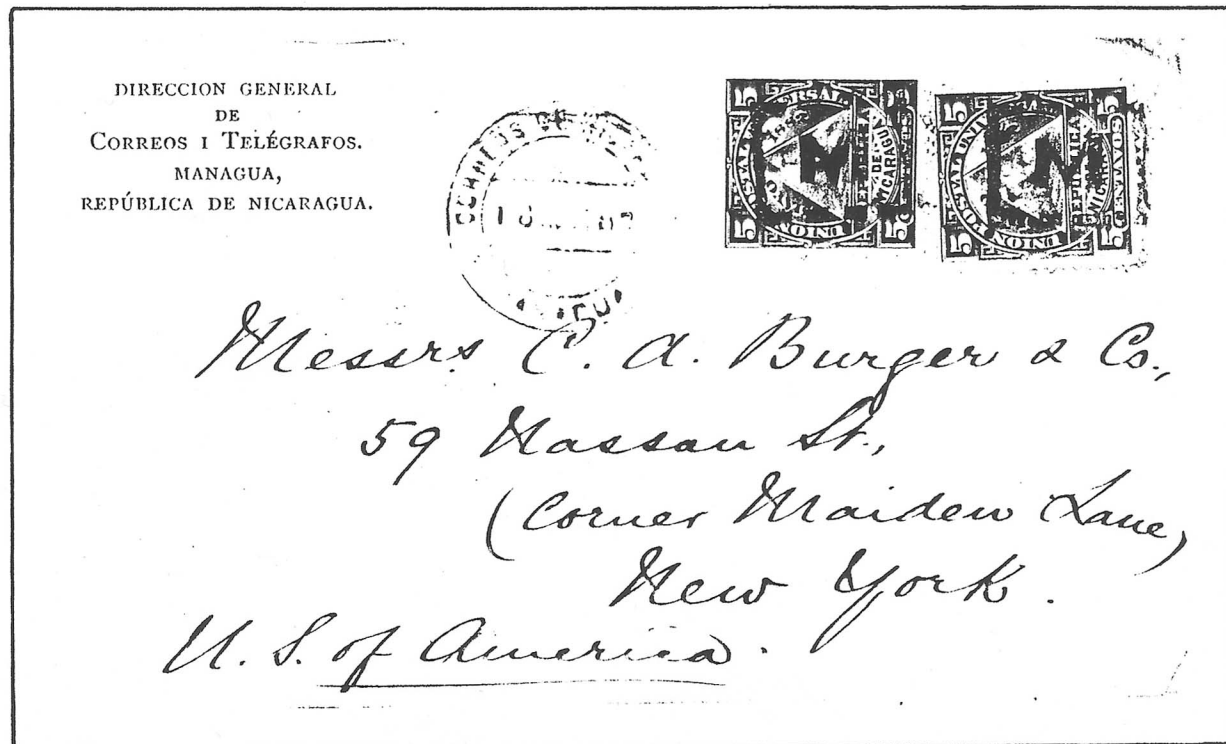
N I C A R A G U A




1882

Soft, porous white paper, engraved, perf. 12
Printed: American Bank Note Co., New York

Front of official cover from Managua to New York, U.S.A.



Stamps cancelled with encased 
Date stamp on cover Managua April 18, 1887

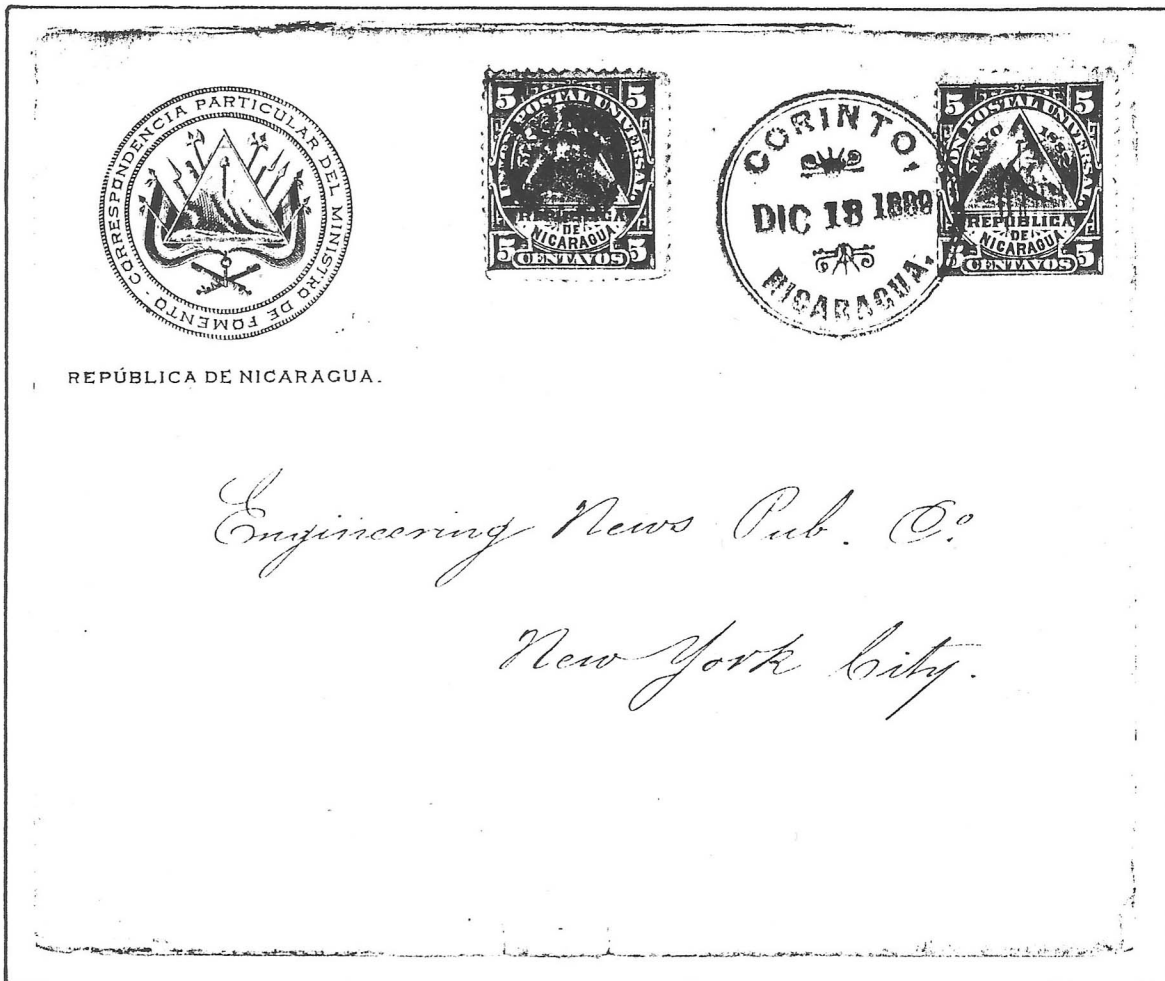
N I C A R A G U A



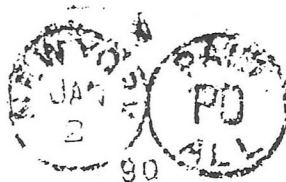
1882

Soft, porous white paper, engraved, perf. 12
Printed: American Bank Note Co., New York

Official cover from Managua (or Rivas?) to New York, N.Y. / U.S.A.



One stamp cancelled (R) in circle
Second stamp cancelled with transit postmark CORINTO December 13, 1889
Arrival postmark New York January 2, 1890



The second 5 centavos stamp was probably added in Corinto to avoid taxation at destination.

Finally, it is known that several other handstamps, besides those officially authorized, were occasionally used to cancel stamps. Some of them are shown here.

Last but not least and before closing the chapter of the I. PERIOD I would like to mention that already on the early issues of Nicaragua postage stamps foreign transit and arrival postmarks can be found. Such stamps are always interesting and a little bit the "salt and pepper" in any specialized collection. Some stamps with such postmarks are also shown here.

N I C A R A G U A

U N C O M M O N o b l i t e r a t i o n s



EARLIEST known BISECT
on piece



R I V A S



NICARAGUA (Rivas) streight line cancel



R I V A S



TELEGRAPH cancel



"COMISARIADO"
(probably first OFFICIAL use)



LEON
DE NICARAGUA



Cancel actually with
NEGATIVE letters!



A B N
(American Bank Note Co.)



"LONDON PAID" arrival postmark

N I C A R A G U A

1 8 6 9 - 1 8 8 0

U . S . A . P O S T M A R K S

on early Nicaragua stamps

STEAM SHIP



PAID



N.Y. POSTAGE DUE cancel



U.S. FOREIGN MAIL cancels



NEW YORK TRANSIT postmark

NEW YORK TRANSIT postmark

U.S. RATE numeral

AGENCIA POSTAL de NICARAGUA EN PANAMA

This is an exceptional and extremely rare postmark of this period. (fig. 3)



Fig. 3

It was applied on mail from - and probably also to - Nicaragua in transit at Panama. I do not know when this postmark first came into use and when its usage ended. The Consular Agent of Nicaragua in Panama acted also as Postal Agent.

In my opinion this postmark was in use during a very short period only. As in the 1880's not so many mail from and to Nicaragua travelled through Panama in a way that it had to be handled by a Nicaragua Postal Agent, so that not many specimens of this postmark should still be in existence.

In any case, the cover in my collection showing this transit postmark "AGENCIA POSTAL de NICARAGUA EN PANAMA" is the only one I have so far seen or heard about.

A Government Decree, dated Managua, August 5, 1861 explains how the mail "Via Panamá" had to be handled by the Nicaraguan Consul in that town. Given the importance of this Decree, I will publish it here in the original Spanish wording.

follows text of page 6 bis

"Acuerdo No. 114 de 5 de agosto, disponiendo la manera en que debe conducirse la correspondencia del exterior por la vía de Panamá.

EL GOBIERNO:

Considerando: que por falta de un arreglo en el envío de la correspondencia de particulares para el exterior, ó la que viene á Nicaragua por la vía de Panamá se extravía de su destino ó se resaga en las estafetas, vapores, ó desembarcaderos, con grave perjuicio del comercio que se resiente de esta falta de seguridad: deseando poner el conveniente remedio, ha tenido a bien,

Acordar:

1o.- El Administrador de correos de Corinto, pondrá las cartas que se dirijan al exterior por la vía de Panamá, en un saco cerrado con dirección al Sr. don Manuel J. Hurtado, Cónsul de Nicaragua en Panamá, incluyéndole un conocimiento de las piezas que contenga. El Cónsul despachará á sus títulos toda la correspondencia oficial y particular que recibiere, pagando el porte de aquellas cartas que lo necesitan para continuar a su destino.

2o.- El mismo Cónsul es encargado de recoger la correspondencia que venga del exterior con destino á Nicaragua, y dirigirla por la vía de Corinto al lugar de su destino, pagando el porte por el retiro que haga de las estafetas de aquellas cartas que no viniesen franqueadas; y dará aviso á los Administradores de correos de la República, para que de tales cartas cobren el porte que está señalado por la ley.

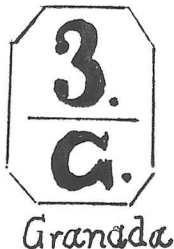
3o.- El Cónsul llevará la cuenta de todas las cartas que franquee en virtud de esta disposición, y la remitirá cada seis meses al Ministerio de Hacienda para su debida y puntual indemnización.

Comuníquese - Managua, agosto 5 de 1861 - MARTINEZ."

N I C A R A G U A

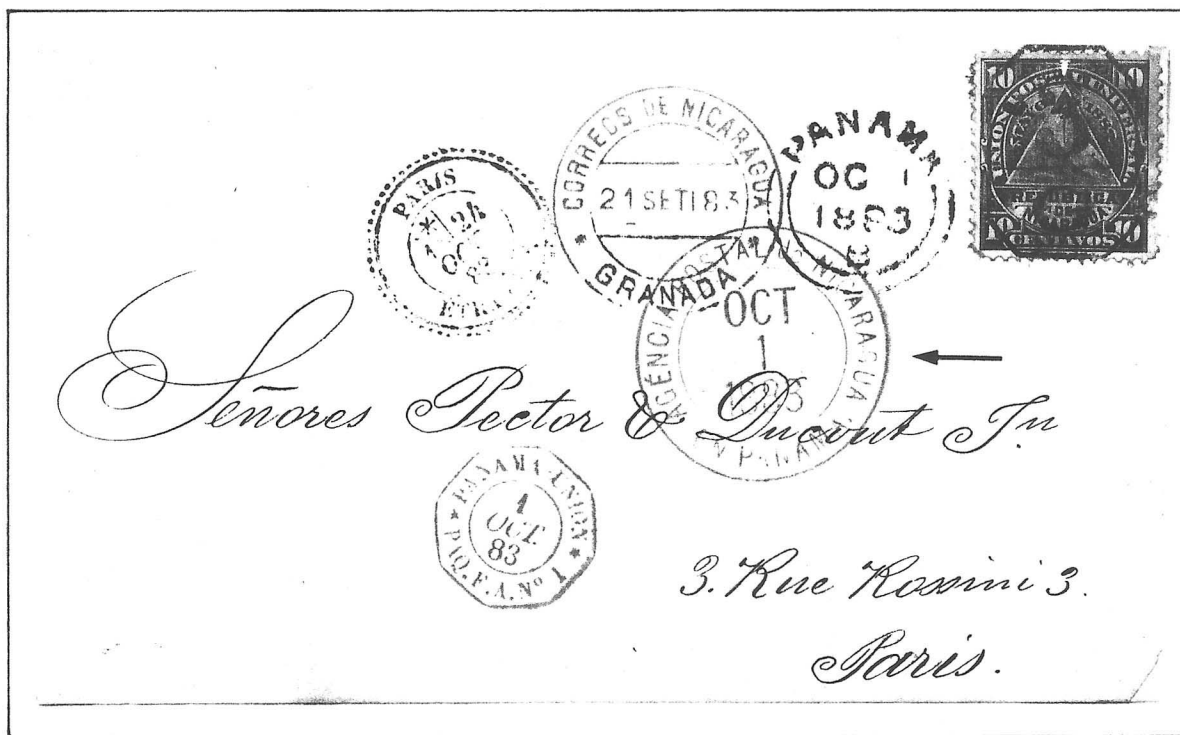
1882

First issue under
U.P.U. membership
Printed: American Bank Note Co.,
New York, perf. 12



AGENCIA POSTAL de NICARAGUA EN PANAMA

Cover from GRANADA via PANAMA to PARIS, France



Cancelled with numerical/town cancel 3/G (GRANADA)
Date cancel GRANADA September 21, 1883 (in OLIVE GREEN)
Transit postmark BRITISH Consular POSTOFFICE in PANAMA,
October 1, 1883
Transit postmark AGENCIA POSTAL de NICARAGUA EN PANAMA,
October 1, 1883 (in VIOLET)
French PAQUEBOT cancel "PANAMA-UNION * PAQ.F.A.No 1 * ,
October 1, 1883 (in RED)
Arrival postmark PARIS October 24, 1883 (in BLUE)

